

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to an Office Action mailed on April 10, 2007. Presently, Claims 1-25 are pending in the application. Of these, Claims 6-25 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1-5 have been examined and stand rejected. Claims 3 and 5 are canceled. Therefore, reconsideration of Claims 1, 2, and 4 is respectfully requested.

Election/Restrictions

Applicants note the election without traverse of the species of FIGURES 6-9, corresponding to Claims 1-5.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because the term "PCB" is an acronym. In response thereto, Claim 1 has been amended to recite "printed circuit board." Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the objection has been overcome.

The Rejection of Claims 3 and 5 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, First Paragraph

Claims 3 and 5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. In response thereto, Claims 3 and 5 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Accordingly, the withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The Rejection of Claims 1-5 Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter that applicants regard as the invention. Specifically, Claim 1 recites the limitation "the a wire direction," which is deemed to be unclear. In response thereto, Claim 1 has been amended. It is respectfully submitted that the amendment overcomes the rejection under the section.

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{LLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100

The Rejection of Claims 1-3 Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

Claims 1-3 are rejected as being unpatentable over JP 06-176386 (Ito) in view of JP 11-306563 (Misono et al.)

Claim 1 has been amended to more clearly define the claimed invention. For example, Claim 1 recites a focusing substrate having four sides, a top surface, and a bottom surface, wherein the top and bottom surfaces are provided with a focusing coil pattern for generating focusing driving force. Further, Claim 1 has been amended to recite that the tracking coils are wound around two opposite sides and the top and bottom surfaces of the focusing substrate on opposite sides of the focusing substrate so that the length of the tracking coils is parallel with the wire direction, wherein said wires have a first end fixed on the wire attaching parts and a second end fixed on the printed circuit board. With reference to FIGURE 7, the tracking coils 74a and 74b are seen wound around the focusing substrate 73 such that the coils traverse the top and bottom surfaces of the focusing substrate on opposite sides of the focusing substrate so that the length of the tracking coils 74a and 74b is parallel with the direction of the wires 77.

Ito describes tracking coils 12a and 12b, which are disposed on opposite ends of the substrate 14a, which lie flat against the surface of the respective ends and are perpendicular to the top and bottom surfaces. Thus, the tracking coils are not wound around the top and bottom surfaces. Accordingly, the Ito patent does not disclose or even remotely suggest the arrangement of the tracking coils as in Claim 1.

Claim 1 further recites wherein the top and bottom surfaces [of the focusing substrate] are provided with a focusing coil pattern for generating focusing driving force. Misono et al., on the other hand, teaches that the focusing coil 27 is wound so that it has a predetermined width in the thickness direction of the lens holder (see the Abstract). Accordingly, it would not have been obvious to combine the teachings of Ito and Misono et al. because Misono et al. explicitly

teaches a focusing coil having a width in the *thickness direction* of the lens holder. Accordingly, keeping the focusing coil a specified width is considered to be an important feature of Misono et al. As such, there is no reason for combining the features of Misono et al. with the features of Ito into the focusing and tracking coils, as claimed, since the combination would be contrary to the teaching of Misono et al. Accordingly, Claim 1 is not obvious.

Claim 2 depends from Claim 1. Therefore, since Claim 1 is allowable, Claim 2 is likewise allowable.

The Rejection of Claim 4 Under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a)

Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ito in combination with Misono et al., and further in view of JP 63-129535 (Shizuma) or, in the alternative, further in view of U.S. Application Publication No. 2005/0060732 (Kang et al.).

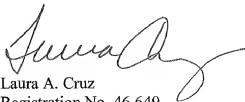
Claim 4 depends from Claim 1. It is submitted that Claim 1 is allowable; therefore, Claim 4 is likewise allowable.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, applicants respectfully submit that Claims 1, 2, and 4 are in condition for allowance. If the Examiner has any further questions or comments, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at (206) 695-1725.

Respectfully submitted,

CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR
JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}



Laura A. Cruz
Registration No. 46,649
Direct Dial No. 206.695.1725

LXC:mgp/dmg

LAW OFFICES OF
CHRISTENSEN O'CONNOR JOHNSON KINDNESS^{PLLC}
1420 Fifth Avenue
Suite 2800
Seattle, Washington 98101
206.682.8100